

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prior Application: M. ARAKI et al  
Serial No. 10/403,277  
Filed: April 1, 2003

Group Art Unit: 2182  
Examiner: H. Kim  
For: STORAGE SYSTEM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows.